

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application.

The text of all pending claims (including any withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Canceled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Withdrawn), (Previously presented), (New), and (Not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1 and 27 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently amended) An information storage medium for use with a recording and/or reproducing apparatus, the information storage medium comprising:
a user data area comprising user data and first sync patterns; and
an additional data area located before and/or after the user data area, and comprising second sync patterns that are different from the first sync patterns and that enable the apparatus to distinguish the additional data area from the user data area when the information storage medium is used with the apparatus;

wherein:

the second sync patterns comprise:

a third sync pattern comprising a third sync body and a third sync identification, and

a fourth sync pattern comprising a fourth sync body and a fourth sync identification, and

the third sync identification is different from the fourth sync identification,
the information storage medium is a read-only information storage medium, and
the additional data area is provided to make the read-only information storage
medium compatible with a recordable information storage medium.

2. (Previously presented) The information storage medium of claim 1, wherein the first sync patterns and/or the second sync patterns are disposed in a plurality of locations, and are

arranged so that adjacent ones of the first sync patterns and/or the second sync patterns are separated by equal intervals.

3. (Previously presented) The information storage medium of claim 2, wherein the second sync patterns are arranged in a plurality of locations in the additional data area so that a size of each of a plurality of user data recorded in the user data area and separated by the first sync patterns is equal to a size of each of a plurality of additional data recorded in the additional data area and separated by the second sync patterns.

4. (Previously presented) The information storage medium of claim 3, wherein:
each of the first sync patterns comprises a first sync body and a first sync identification,
and
each of the first sync identification, the third sync identification, and the fourth sync identification satisfies a run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having a minimum constraint of d and a maximum constraint of k.

5. (Previously presented) The information storage medium of claim 3, wherein:
the first sync patterns are arranged in a plurality of locations in the user data area, and
a total size of additional data recorded in the additional data area is an integer multiple of a size of each of a plurality of user data recorded in the user data area and separated by the first sync patterns.

6. (Previously presented) The information storage medium of claim 2, wherein the first sync patterns are arranged in a plurality of locations in the user data area, and
a total size of additional data recorded in the additional data area is an integer multiple of a size of each of a plurality of user data recorded in the user data area and separated by the first sync patterns.

7. (Previously presented) The information storage medium of claim 6, wherein:
each of the first sync patterns comprises a first sync body and a first sync identification,
and

each of the first sync identification, the third sync identification, and the fourth sync identification satisfies a run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having a minimum constraint of d and a maximum constraint of k.

8. (Previously presented) The information storage medium of claim 2, wherein:
each of the first sync patterns comprises a first sync body and a first sync identification,
and

each of the first sync identification, the third sync identification, and the fourth sync identification satisfies a run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having a minimum constraint of d and a maximum constraint of k.

9. (Previously presented) The information storage medium of claim 1, wherein the second sync patterns are arranged in a plurality of locations in the additional data area so that a size of each of a plurality of user data recorded in the user data area and separated by the first sync patterns is equal to a size of each of a plurality of additional data recorded in the additional data area and separated by the second sync patterns.

10. (Previously presented) The information storage medium of claim 1, wherein the first sync patterns are disposed in a plurality of locations in the user data area, and
a total size of additional data recorded in the additional data area is an integer multiple of a size of each of a plurality of user data recorded in the user data area and separated by the first sync patterns.

11. (Previously presented) The information storage medium of claim 1, wherein:
each of the first sync patterns comprises a first sync body and a first sync identification,
and

each of the first sync identification, the third sync identification, and the fourth sync identification satisfies a run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having a minimum constraint of d and a maximum constraint of k.

12–26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently amended) A recording and/or reproducing apparatus for use with an information storage medium, the information storage medium comprising a user data area comprising first sync patterns, and an additional data area located before and/or after the user data area, and the additional data area comprising second sync patterns that are different from the first sync patterns and that enable the apparatus to distinguish the additional data area from the user data area when the information storage medium is used with the apparatus, the apparatus comprising:

a recording and/or reproducing unit to optically transfer user data and/or additional data between the apparatus and the information storage medium; and

a controller to control the recording and/or reproducing unit to transfer the user data with respect to the user data area, and to transfer the additional data with respect to the additional data area;

wherein:

the second patterns comprise:

a third sync pattern comprising a third sync body and a third sync identification, and

a fourth sync pattern comprising a fourth sync body and a fourth sync identification, and

the third sync identification is different from the fourth sync identification,

the information storage medium is a read-only information storage medium, and
the additional data area is provided to make the read-only information storage
medium compatible with a recordable information storage medium.

28. (Previously presented) The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 27, wherein:

the controller controls the recording and/or reproducing unit to determine the user data area of the information storage medium,

the first sync patterns of the information storage medium are disposed in a plurality of locations in the user data area so as to define a size of each of a plurality of the user data recorded in the user data area and separated by the first sync patterns,

the second sync patterns of the information storage medium are disposed in a plurality of locations in the additional data area so as to define a size of each of a plurality of the additional data recorded in the additional data area and separated by the second sync patterns, and

the size of each of the plurality of the user data recorded in the user data area is equal to the size each of the plurality of the additional data recorded in the additional data area.

29. (Previously presented) The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 27, wherein the controller further controls the recording and/or reproducing unit to:

determine another user data area comprising first sync patterns so that the additional data area is disposed between the user data area and the other user data area, and transfer the user data with respect to the other user data area.

30. (Previously presented) The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 27, wherein:

each of the first sync patterns comprises a first sync identification that satisfies a run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having a minimum constraint of d and a maximum constraint of k , and

the controller detects the first sync identification.

31. (Previously presented) The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 30, wherein:

each of the third sync identification and the fourth sync identification satisfies a run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having a minimum constraint of d and a maximum constraint of k , and the controller detects the third sync identification and the fourth sync identification.

32–35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously presented) The information storage medium of claim 11, wherein each of the first sync body, the third sync body, and the fourth sync body does not satisfy the run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having the minimum constraint of d and the maximum constraint of k .

37. (Previously presented) The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 31, wherein each of the first sync body, the third sync body, and the fourth sync body does not satisfy the run-length limited (RLL) (d, k) code having the minimum constraint of d and the maximum constraint of k.